

Thomas J. McKenny

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in which he acquired a vast fortune, which has been estimated at \$100,000,000. His operations extended into Iowa, Wisconsin, Kansas, Nebraska, Dakota, Missouri and Texas. He built the first railroad across this State from the Mississippi to the Missouri, and later more than two thousand miles in Iowa and Nebraska. He became a director in seventeen railroad companies, including the Union Pacific, and was president of three. He is understood to have been a large stockholder in many wealthy corporations throughout the North. He was a liberal giver to many churches, schools and colleges. He was once the Republican candidate for Governor of New Jersey but was defeated, and is said to have been a delegate to every Republican National Convention since the organization of the party.

THOMAS J. MCKENNY was born in Gallatin county, Illinois, in 1830; he died at Olympia, Washington, November 10, 1899. He was educated at Locust Hill Episcopal College, Franklin county, Illinois. He left his college to serve a year and a half in the Mexican War, after which he settled and engaged in business in Keokuk, Iowa. When the War of the Rebellion broke out in 1861, he helped raise the Second Infantry, in which he became 1st lieutenant of Co. A. In November of that year, he was promoted to adjutant of the regiment. Later he was made major and served in various staff positions. He received the brevets of lieutenant colonel, colonel and brigadier general. His service during the war was one of great activity, often involving heavy responsibilities. He carried the order to Gen. J. C. Fremont in which that officer was relieved of his command, and Gen. David Hunter assigned to his place. Fremont was determined not to relinquish his command at that time and had given orders that no one should be permitted to enter his lines. McKenny, however, found his way to Fremont's headquarters in disguise and delivered the order. That was considered "one of the most important and dangerously dramatic events of the war." After the war he returned to Keokuk, but in 1868 was appointed superintendent of Indian affairs in Washington territory, with headquarters at Olympia. He served in this capacity five years, when he again entered into business life, dealing in real estate, railroading, building, etc. He was one of Keokuk's best known and most popular and esteemed citizens in his younger days, as he afterward became in his far western home. The journals of both localities paid high tributes to his memory.

IN THE DEATH of Judge Franklin G. Adams, Secretary and Founder of the Kansas State Historical Society, not only his own State, but the West, has sustained an irreparable loss. He was a pioneer settler and one of the earnest friends of freedom who prevented Kansas from becoming a slave state. He took his stand in favor of freedom when such action was not without great personal danger. After these troubles had passed he became a historical collector, and in 1874 was foremost in organizing the State Historical Society, of which he became the first and only secretary, holding the office until his death, on the 2d of December last. His collections are undoubtedly next in size and importance to those of Wisconsin. With but meager assistance from the State he had built up a special historical library of 80,000 volumes and 12,000 manuscripts. He had for some time preserved all the issues of every daily and weekly paper in Kansas. He had also published several volumes of reports, together with two or three volumes relating to local history and education. The legislature at times made quite meager appropriations to sustain his work, but he kept right along and did the best in his power under the circumstances. The results of his work are simply magnificent. Through his efforts his State now possesses a collection of historical material the value of which cannot be estimated in dollars and cents. Judge Adams was a pleasant corre-

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